

Easter Opening... of Ladies' and Misses' ...Suits and Wraps.



SAKS & CO. take great pleasure in announcing for Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday a display of fine imported and domestic novelties that were specially made for Easter and have just arrived.

We feel sure from the interest already manifested in Richmond's newest and best Suit and Wrap Department that you will appreciate the timeliness and convenience of this exhibition—giving it the honor of your attendance.

It is a collection of original and exclusive creations of such master costumers as Paugat, Felix, Worth, Sarah Mayer, Rodnitz, and others who set the fashions of the world, together with the clever productions of less famous but meritorious artists. Needless to say, that such a showing in Richmond is without parallel or precedent.

At the same time, the garments are within easy price-reach.

Special Sale of Models.

Another feature of these three days will be the special offering of what remain of those Model Dresses—Suits, Capes—and Jackets—that gave such tone and character to our initial opening a short month ago. They're fresh as the day they went on display—and consist of Black Silk Grenadines made over silk. Novelty Wool Gowns, Imported Swiss, Lawn, and Organdy Dresses of the grandest values and highest types of fashion.

They have served their mission with us—and we have determined to let the loss come now, when the gain to you will be all the greater.

Take it all in all—the coming week is one of extraordinary moment to the ladies of this city.

A. Saks & Co.

"Saks' Corner."

The Reduction Cuts—

\$1.50 Gowns to \$1.00

\$1.25 Gowns to 75c

\$1.00 Gowns to 60c

75c Gowns to 50c

THE ROYAL ARCANUM.

THE GRAND BODY TO MEET HERE

APRIL 20TH.

Frominent Men From All Over the State Will Attend—What the Great Arcanum Is, and What It Has Done.

In the forefront of the ranks of great fraternal beneficial organizations stands the great Royal Arcanum, with a membership rapidly approaching a quarter of a million souls, and with a record that is phenomenal and interesting. This organization was formed in Boston on June 23, 1877, with a membership of seven men, who were imbued with the lofty principles of fraternal regard and a desire to promote a policy of mutual co-operation and assistance on the part of men, wherever they met.



JOHN J. JAMESON.
(Grand Regent of the Royal Arcanum of Virginia.)

by there would be the better developed the highest qualities of many brotherhood. The scope of the organization included moral and material aid to members and their dependents, education of its members, assistance of widows and orphans of deceased members, relief of sick and distressed members, payment of death benefit of \$3,000 to full-rate and \$1,500 to half-rate members.

To say nothing of the many other grand results the Arcanum has effected, it has paid out nearly fifty millions of dollars to the dependents of deceased brothers, and the larger portion of this vast sum has gone to lift the burden of despair—over properly speaking, to lighten that burden which had otherwise left bereft of the material comforts of life.

No inconsiderable amount of this vast sum has been paid out in our own city and State, and the Royal Arcanum is a household word throughout the land. Aside from the personal consideration of the satisfaction one enjoys from the knowledge that he is providing for his loved ones against the day of calamity, it is an honor and pleasure to be attached to an organization that has demonstrated itself to be such a magnificent charity.

The Arcanum is composed of local councils, Grand or State councils, and a Supreme Council, which latter is the supreme authority of the entire order, making and revising laws, and supervising the entire autonomy of the order. There are about 1,800 local or subordinate councils and twenty-four Grand councils.



JAMES B. BLANKS.
(Grand Secretary of the Royal Arcanum.)

MOVEMENT OF COTTON.

FIGURES FURNISHED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

Total Shipment from States of Production to Northern and Western Mills, Canada and Mexico.

WASHINGTON, April 10.—The statements furnished the Department of Agriculture by all the railways and water transportation companies show that from September 1, 1896, to February 1, 1897, the total actual movement of cotton from the States of production to ports, northern and western mills, Canada, Mexico and all other destinations amounted to 6,617,120 commercial bales. Reports from the officials of the mills show actual shipments during the same period amounted to 5,613,300 bales. The department, therefore, and predict agents show that in February, 1897, there remained on plantations 992,200 bales; in warehouses, 890,720 bales; at public gin, 191,000 bales; at compresses, 231,341 bales; and at other points, 1,004,411 bales. Total, 3,296,261 bales, not including stocks held at ports.

The crop by States is as follows: Movement from Alabama, 611,707 bales; remaining on plantations, in warehouses, 157,720 bales; brought by mills, 439,752 bales. Total, 1,209,179 bales. From Arkansas, 481,783 bales; plantations, etc., 129,667 bales; mills, 445 bales. Total, 611,895 bales. From Georgia, 624,000 bales; plantations, etc., 177,883 bales; mills, 134,120 bales. Total, 825,903 bales.

From Indian Territory, 68,800 bales; plantations, etc., 14,600 bales. Total, 83,400 bales. From Kentucky, 238 bales. From Louisiana, 48,671 bales; plantations, etc., 10,760 bales; mills, 667,477 bales. Total, 726,908 bales. From Mississippi, 922,904 bales; plantations, etc., 148,207 bales; mills, 8,928 bales. Total, 1,079,939 bales.

From Missouri, 23,560 bales; plantations, etc., 1,102 bales. Total, 24,662 bales. From North Carolina, 571,714 bales; plantations, etc., 58,000 bales; mills, 112,520 bales. Total, 742,234 bales. From Oklahoma, 32,900 bales; plantations, etc., 1,102 bales. Total, 34,002 bales.

From South Carolina, 393,430 bales; plantations, etc., 212,210 bales. Total, 605,640 bales. From Tennessee, 168,000 bales; plantations, etc., 54,565 bales; mills, 16,100 bales. Total, 238,665 bales.

From Texas, 1,323,100 bales; plantations, etc., 54,410 bales; mills, 4,980 bales. Total, 2,382,490 bales. From Virginia, 10,434 bales; plantations, etc., 80 bales. Total, 11,234 bales.

Total crop, 8,594,879 commercial bales. ADDITIONAL RAILWAY MOVEMENT. To the above mill figures should be added: From Georgia, 438,075 bales; Arkansas, 445 bales; Georgia, 134,720 bales; Kentucky, 1,142 bales; Louisiana, 5,917 bales; Mississippi, 8,928 bales; Missouri, 1,324 bales; North Carolina, 112,520 bales; South Carolina, 202,213 bales; Tennessee, 16,100 bales; Texas, 4,980 bales; and Virginia, 11,234 bales. Total, 529,367 bales as compared with 698,890 bales, revised figures, same period last year. No deduction has been made of cotton on plantations and at interior points September 1, 1896. The above figures are subject to revision in the department's final report.

Shooting Affair in Bland.

BLAND, VA., April 9.—Special.—W. D. Green, son of the ex-postmaster here shot and seriously wounded More Bennett on the street last night. The trouble originated about a dog of Bennett's, that had been poisoned.

R. H. Penley and Alida E. Fannon were married on the 7th instant.

The "Money Spider" is the title of a comic opera shortly to be sung in London.

THE EPILEPTIC INSANE.

AN OPINION FROM AN EMINENT AND EXPERIENCED SURGEON.

This Class of Unfortunate Citizens is Rapidly Growing and Dr. Blackford Says Special Steps Must be Taken for Them.

STAUNTON, VA., April 9.—Special.—I called on Dr. Benjamin Blackford, superintendent of the Western State Hospital, with the request that he would give his views on the question of the treatment of epileptics in or out of our State Hospital, which is now being discussed by many persons interested in this growing and unfortunate class of our citizens. The interview resulted in the following highly interesting statement:

EPILEPTIC COLONY. The burden of the care and maintenance of this unfortunate class of our fellow citizens is increasing rapidly, as I have said, not only in this State, but other States, and it is our duty to do the best we can for them, either by erecting separate buildings for them at the existing Hospital, or to establish a colony and give them the benefit of work on a farm and out-door exercise.

They could be better taken care of and trained in the colony than the chronic insane could be under a separate institution, as they could be worked to a greater advantage.

UNSUCCESSFUL EXPERIMENTS. Experience has demonstrated that this



DR. BENJAMIN BLACKFORD.
(Superintendent of the Western State Hospital.)

class should be cared for in hospitals with recent insane, and whenever the experiment of a separate institution for the chronic insane has been tried, notably in New York, it has been unsuccessful and abandoned.

Pennsylvania is now trying the experiment at Wernersville, but the reports are not encouraging as to its continued successful operation. The whole question is a very serious one to contemplate, and should be well considered.

This State is in no financial condition to be establishing new plants, either for our epileptics or any class of the insane, without serious consideration in any aspect.

DR. BLACKFORD'S STATEMENT. "There are no more disturbing patients in the wards than in any epileptic. The cries of many of them when they are coming on, and the convulsive movements when seizures take place are distressing in the extreme to a great many intelligent patients, especially those of a sensitive nature, or those who are recovering."

Not only so, but many epileptics are dangerous to others, and during the exciting stage need constant watching. It would be a great loss to all the Virginia insane hospitals were one or two cottages set apart for this class under ardent supervision, and it can be the case in our hospitals as present constructed.

The epileptics in the place of patients who are really insane, and if the present rapid increase of epileptics in the hospitals continues there will soon be no room for the insane who are really insane.

RAPID INCREASE. Recent or older the State will have to make provision for this class, either by constructing buildings at each of the hospitals, or to establish a colony, a separate institution for them as has been done in several of the States. The question to be considered by the Legislature is, which is the more economical plan under the present condition of the State's finances. There are any epileptics, not insane, sent to the State Hospital, who are utilized in the working force. They have their convulsions while at work, and as soon as they are over, sit up and go on with the work as if nothing had happened. This class could be taken care of in an institution on the colony plan with a farm, and would doubtless be self-supporting in a few years under proper management.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERY. Rev. Geo. H. Ray Organized and Assigned to Anderson at a House.

CHAILETTESVILLE, VA., April 9.—The closing recesses of the Western Presbyterian Synod, which has been in session at Covington since last Tuesday noon place today.

Licentiate George H. Ray was ordained to the full work of the ministry and a commission as pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Lexington, Va. Dr. Harris was appointed to install him as pastor of the church on the first Sunday in May.

Rev. Dr. Harding presided a sermon on the "Doctrines of the Westminster Assembly" in continuance of the Westminster celebration.

A memorial tablet in honor of Rev. B. M. Wadley, long pastor of Cove church, was unveiled in the Cove church, and appropriate memorial addresses were made by Dr. Rawlings, Dr. Blair, and Mr. Perkins. The tablet was erected by the church in loving remembrance of their former pastor. The service was very impressive.

Candidate J. M. Reynolds was examined on his theological studies, and having passed all his examinations satisfactorily was licensed to preach the gospel.

There was a spirited contest to secure the next meeting of the Presbytery, Glasgow Mills, Howardville, Cumberland, and Arvon churches were all placed in nomination. Arvon church was re-elected and August 10th was chosen as the time for the next meeting.

LEGISLATIVE CANDIDATES. J. W. Harris Wants to Represent Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania.

FREDERICKSBURG, VA., April 10.—Special.—J. W. Harris, of this city, has announced himself a candidate for the Democratic nomination for the Legislature from this city and county.

In the adjoining county of Culpeper the nomination seems to be unobtainable. Messrs. Harris and John S. Harbair, and Dr. Edwin Grimsley, all of whom have been talked of for the place, say they would not accept the nomination.

It is thought efforts will be made to induce Mr. G. S. P. Triplett, a prominent farmer, to be the candidate.

Colonel John C. Porter will probably be the Republican candidate. Dr. George H. Channing, of this city, has been invited to deliver an address before the Virginia, Washington City and Maryland State Dental Association, which will convene at Old Point May 6th, 7th, and 8th. He has accepted.

ROBBERIES IN CULPEPER.

Main-Street Stores Broken Open From the Front.

CULPEPER, VA., April 10.—Special.—The dry goods and shoe store of Brown & Ashby, on Main street, and the stationery store of J. G. Holladay, next door, were entered by thieves last night. This was the fourth store robbery here in two months, and like all the others these stores were entered through the front door, the locks and clasps being picked off with an axe or crowbar. The authorities are finally aroused, and efforts are being made to run the burglars to earth. The merchants think the burglars were more after money than anything else, as they miss very few articles.

Lewis P. Nelson, Jr., has an office in the rear of the store of Messrs. Brown & Ashby. His roll-top desk was battered and broken open, but only a few postage stamps were missed.

He Took the Cuff-Buttons.

A man named Henry Allen, who was laboring under a heavy load of responsibility occasioned by an over-indulgence in



HE TOOK THE CUFF-BUTTONS.

intoxicating fluids, under the direction of Captain Thomas, wandered into the confines of the First Police Station yesterday morning.

When he was informed by the officers that such conduct was unbecoming a guest of Captain Thomas, he professed surprise. "Well, well," he said, "I must have been crazy."

A SHIRT TO HIS MEMORY.

The Movement to Erect a Memorial to Professor Harris.

Dr. H. B. Pitt, who has been gathering the fund for a memorial to the late Prof. Harris, announced in a recent issue of the Religious Herald that the fund will be closed on April 15th, and the whole matter turned over to the committee in charge. This committee, it will be remembered, consists of Hon. J. L. M. Curry, Dr. W. R. Hatcher, Professor Charles H. Winston, Dr. Thomas S. Dunaway, of Fredericksburg, and Dr. W. H. Whitsett, of Louisville. Quite a liberal sum has been subscribed, and nearly all of it has been paid in.

It is understood that the amount will be probably expended in a shaft to mark his grave, and possibly a portrait for the college library.

Mr. Henry C. Burnett, cashier of the First National Bank, is treasurer of the fund.

Manager Stevens Will Remain. The Cincinnati papers have referred several times to the report that General Manager George W. Stevens, of the Chesapeake and Ohio system, would shortly resign his connection with the Washburn system, with which he was associated prior to coming to the Chesapeake and Ohio.

Mr. Stevens was seen yesterday morning and asked as to the correctness of the report. He replied that there was no truth whatever in it.

A gentleman familiar with the facts said yesterday morning that these reports were circulated semi-annually, and that they were originated with the Indianapolis Journal.

"There is no foundation for the report," said the gentleman, "for Mr. Stevens stated to me this morning that he intended to remain with the Chesapeake and Ohio system, and had never contemplated leaving it."

Mr. Stevens has many friends in Richmond, and all with whom he has business relations will be glad to know that the services of this excellent man will not be lost to the Chesapeake and Ohio or the city such an estimable gentleman.

Funeral of Mr. Sned.

The funeral of Mr. Edward T. Sned, whose death was announced in yesterday's issue, took place from Leigh Street Baptist church yesterday afternoon at 3 o'clock, and was largely attended by the relatives and friends of the deceased.

Some of the people of Monroe appear to be up in arms concerning the one there.

There is a whisper about a plan to have the Railway Commission increase its assessment of the North Carolina Railway, to perhaps \$100,000.

The Republicans and Populists in this city had a conference last night and decided to endorse Frank Starnard, independent, as a candidate for Mayor, against William M. Russ.

TWO CORRECT AN ERROR. Two interesting cases were argued at Chambers here to-day before Judge Adams, of the Superior Court, in the Supreme Court room. One was a mandamus case in which Governor Russell seeks to make State Auditor Ayer put in the printed tax lists blanks \$1.58 as the rate of poll tax, thus correcting the error in the revenue act, which gave 45 cents as the property tax and only \$1.25 as the poll tax, whereas the constitution requires the poll tax to be thrice the property tax.

The other case was in regard to possession of the three hospitals for the insane. The present incumbents, represented by a number of attorneys, declare the new law to be unconstitutional and merely a "grab" at the hospitals. Of course this case, like the one above referred to, goes to the Supreme Court for final settlement.

There may be a hundred pretenders—but there can be but one real leader—one store that embodies every attribute of mastership—always honest qualities—always lowest prices—always the widest variety. By these tokens we are the recognized leaders—in whom the people have confidence to whom they extend their patronage freely—from whom they receive their greatest satisfaction. The perfect store.

We've Crossed the Line

of prejudice. None of the ready-made earmarks about our Top Coats and Suits. Every evidence of custom tailoring—except in the price. We do the making in our own workshops—so we know how it is done. We employ artist cutters—and expert tailors—who are without peers in their line. We have our six stores to supply—and that figures the cost of production down to its lowest point. A fair retailer's profit is all we ask—all you pay—and that's how we can sell better clothes than anybody—cheaper than everybody. We want to do it—and we do it.

These are Big Values even for us to Offer

Top Coats.

Tan Covert Cloth, with best of Italian cloth lining and silk sleeve linings. Cut regular top coat shortness and made with careful attention to every detail. There are no better coats for \$15.

\$7.50

A wonderful Coat, silk lined all through; very short cut, and very natty and nobby; popular tan shade. You've seen 'em for \$15 maybe—nowhere for less.

\$12.50

We offer to-morrow one lot of Tan Covert coats, that are silk-lined throughout and ought to sell for \$15. The seams are tipped, the facings are wide. No longer cut than the new London Topper. Instead of \$19.

\$15.00

Here's a swell novelty Imported Cheviot made up in Single-breasted, with double-breasted waistcoat. Perfect copy of the best style in the latest fashion plate. Perfect fitting.

Brown Novelty Plaid Back Suit; not a hard plaid, but a gentle, refined effect. One of the best English mills wove the fabric; one of Saks' best cutters cut, and our best tailors made it up. Worth price would be \$25.

Spring Suits.

All-Weat Dark Brown and Gray Plaid 3-Button Cutaway Suits, tailored just as well as we know how, trimmed durably, and with good effect. No misstatement to say worth \$15.

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